

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	DOCKET NO. WRU-08-48-978
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ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

(Issued December 18, 2008)

On December 4, 2008, Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative (Iowa Lakes) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for waiver of 199 IAC 20.3(6). This rule generally provides that electric bills for large customers be rendered monthly, unless the Board grants an exemption or waiver. Iowa Lakes asks for a waiver of the monthly billing rules so that it may bill one of its large customers, Global Ethanol (Global), twice each month. Global operates an ethanol plant in Iowa Lakes' electric service territory. No objections to the waiver request have been filed.

In support of the waiver request, Iowa Lakes indicated that Global's highest monthly bill was \$267,735.15. Iowa Lakes said Global has been a member of the cooperative since October 2001 and its last late payment was in March 2007. Iowa Lakes noted it does not have a deposit from Global. Because of the rules regarding disconnection, Iowa Lakes calculated that monthly billing actually puts it at risk for up to 62 days of electric usage.

The Board will grant the waiver. Iowa Lakes has demonstrated that it has significant financial risk with monthly billing. Monthly billing is not mandated by

statute and allowing more frequent billing will allow service to continue to a significant customer while at the same time protecting Iowa Lakes' other member-consumers. The standards for a waiver contained in 199 IAC 1.3 have been satisfied. However, the Board will limit the term of the waiver to two years from the date of this order. If at that time Iowa Lakes believes that circumstances justify continuation of semi-monthly billing, Iowa Lakes may file another request for waiver or exemption request for the Board to consider.

Because of the size of the billings, the Board has expedited the waiver request. If any subsequent responses are filed, the Board will address them at that time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The request for waiver filed by Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative on December 4, 2008, with respect to the billing of Global Ethanol, is granted, for a period of up to two years from the date of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18th day of December, 2008.